

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of St. (101)

59-M

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Control: 17413

Rec'd: October 23, 1962

1:22 P.M.

10/24/62

DATE 10/24/62

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 638, October 23, 9 p.m.

(SECTION ONE OF TWO)

PRIORITY

ACTION DEPARTMENT PRIORITY 638, INFORMATION PARIS 248, LONDON 418, BONN 79, ROME 60, THE HAGUE 65, LUXEMBOURG 46

PARIS FOR USRO

Cuba.

EMBTEL 636

When I saw Spaak this afternoon about Cuba he most understanding of our action and said he fully understood reasons compelling us to take measures announced by President. He had this morning report from Belgian Ambassador Cuba dated October 12 confirming Soviet build-up in Cuba (including missiles) and gave me copy.

Spaak also very understanding about matter of prior consultation. He said he would frankly have preferred us inform NATO allies 24 hours in advance of our action, "particularly since nobody could have valid objection, in view evidence of ground-to-ground missile build-up". However, he knew we were obliged to move swiftly and was not taking issue with us re consultation. (He also made very good statement to Belgian press saying GOB understood why Americans obliged to act and that NATO partners had been informed by US yesterday in accordance with regular procedures, etcetera).

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-2- 638, October 23, 9 p.m. (SECTION ONE OF TWO) from Brussels

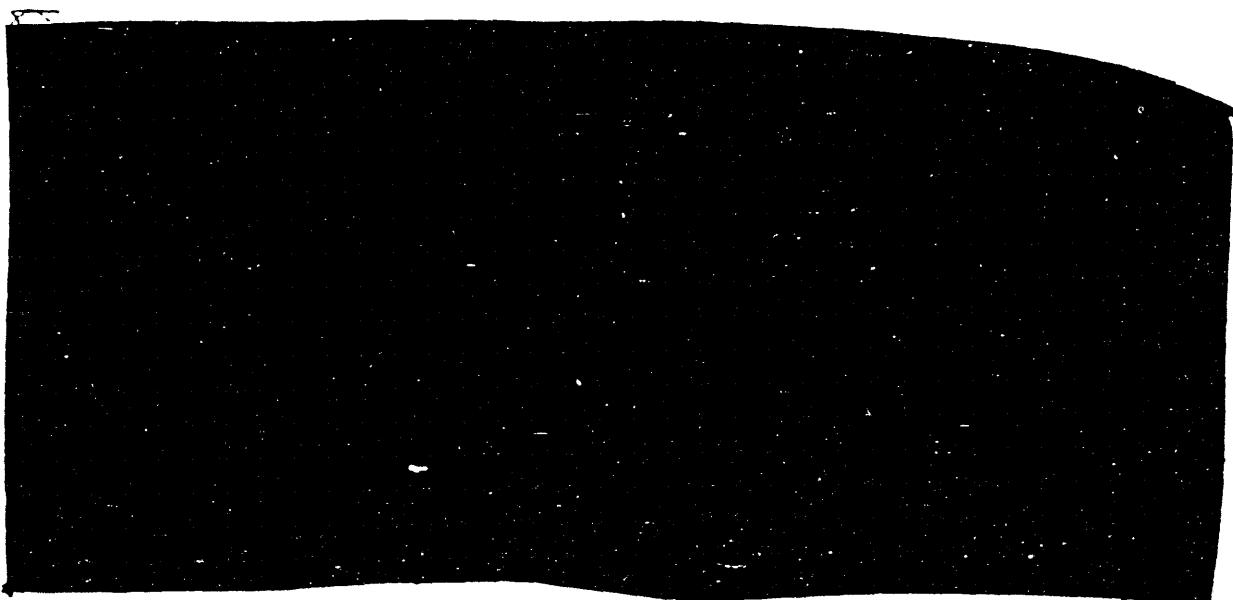
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-3- 638, October 23, 9 p.m. (SECTION ONE OF TWO) from Brussels

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MCARTHUR

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NOTE: Advance copy to SS-0 10-23-62 CWO-M

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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59-M

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Action

Control: 17401

EUR

Rec'd: October 23, 1962
7:08 p.m.

Info

FROM: Brussels

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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SP NO: 638, October 23, 9 P.M. (SECTION II OF II)

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 638, INFORMATION PARIS 248, LONDON 418,
BONN 79, ROME 60, THE HAGUE 65, LUXEMBOURG 46

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PARIS FOR USRO

He concluded by observing that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In light of developments and dangers implicit in present situation he planned cancel his trip to Israel (Embassy telegram 593) and remain here in Brussels where he could be in close consultation with US and other NATO allies.

I also had separate meeting with Socialist Party President Collard today explaining in detail why we obliged to act and importance of maintaining unified allied front in face of Soviet threat. Collard also reacted with great understanding. While saying [REDACTED] left-wing of Socialist Party would undoubtedly strongly criticize our action, he understood and appreciated our reasons. Significantly he said that in recent months President Kennedy has repeatedly given proof that he is man of good will who desires peaceful solutions and has not acted in bellicose manner but has been moderate and restrained. Therefore no objective observer can justly accuse US of acting in irresponsible or provocative manner. He also said that since Europeans insist we interest ourselves in defense of Europe and understand Europe's security [REDACTED]

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problems
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-2- 638, October 23, 9 P.M. (SECTION II OF II), from Brussels

PH
Problems, it only fair that Europeans be prepared to recognize we have equally strong interest and great problems re defense of Western Hemisphere, and that we are much better informed on these matters than our European allies

MACARTHUR

MJA

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